



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

United States Serial No. : Not yet assigned  
International Application No. : PCT/GB99/01824  
International Filing Date : June 9, 1999  
Inventors : Victor Matassa et al.  
Title : PEPTIDE INHIBITORS OF  
HEPATITIS C VIRUS NS3  
PROTEASE

**COPY**

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Our File: 0380-P02370US0

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Before calculation of the filing fee, please amend the claims of the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

In claim 5, lines 2-3, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 7, lines 1-2, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert therefor --claim 1--.

In claim 9, line 2, delete "or claim 8".

In claim 11, line 2, delete "or claim 10".

In claim 15, lines 1-2, delete "or 14".